on the support price being given to farmers by Government; and

(b) if any one of them is adversely affected then what steps Government propose to take to obviate the adverse effect of the agreement on these categ ories?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) There will be no adverse effect on procurement of food grains and on the support price.

(b) Does not arise.

Bill on Sui-Generis

6274. SHRI S. S. SURJEWALA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce a bill in the current session to make an act in 'Sui Generis' for safeguarding farmers' interests; and

(b) whether Government have considered the views of the ICAR on the above issue and if so, the points recommended by ICAR which are being incorporated in the proposed bill?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) ICAR has been fully associated with the drafting of the legislation.

Effects of GATT on Industries

6275. SHRI RAMNATH KOVIND: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the short term and long term effects on our national industries of our becom ing a member of GATT;

(b) whether these effects can be mea sured in some common denominations and if so, what will be the scenario on time-scale;

(c) whether there are any apprehensions of arm twisting by the industrialized countries on economic pressures because of our joining GATT; and

(d) the areas most vulnerable because of our medium technology status vis-a-vis industrialised countries?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d) India has been a member of GATT since 1948. The reults of the Uruguay Round will establish an open, rule-based multilateral trading system which will enable trade to be carried out in a stable and predictable environ ment. A GATT secretariat study has estimated that the greates increases are likely to be in trade in textiles, agricul tural products and products of the food processing industry. The same Study has estimated the increase in global trade (at the end of ten years) to be more than 700 billion dollars.

Members of GATT enjoy the protection of the multilateral Dispute Settlement Mechanism and are therefore better placed to withstand unilateral pressures in areas covered by the multilateral Agreement.

The most competitive sectors of industry would stand to gain the most, and the technology used is only one of the factors determining competitiveness.

Non-product specific and product specific subsidies

6276. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

SHRI ANANTRAY DEV-
SHANKER DAVE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total value of non-product specific and product specific subsidies as on date;

(b) whether it is a fact that there are differences among agricultural econo mists on the methodology of calculating

subsidy on commodities relating to which our product specific subsidy is positive or negative;

(c) if so, the details about the methodology and how it becomes postive or negative;

(d) whether support price is subsidy or not and if so, details thereof and if not reasons therefor;

(e) whether it is a fact that total value of non-specific subsidies during 1986-87 to 1988-98 on an average was Rs. 4,582 crores;

(f) whether it is also a fact that total product specific subsidies was minus Rs. 24,442 crores and if so, the reasons for subsidy being negative; and

(d) how it is calculated that total value of domestic agricultural subsidies were minus Rs. 19860 crores?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (g) The Aggregate Measurement of Support (AMS) is required to be calculated for the base period of 1986-87 to 1988-89, and not on moving average basis. The calculations, along with supporting tables, have been placed in the Parliament House Library.

The AMS is a negotiated concept. The negative figure arises from the fact that in most agricultural commodities our support prices during the base period 1986—88 were lower than the reference international prices.

The product-specific AMS has been calculated to be minus 24,442.2 crore rupees and the non-product-specific AMS 4851.4 crore rupees. These calculationsi have been verified and accepted' by our trading partners in GATT_

Implications of signing world trade treaty on India's National interest

6277. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have, examined the implications affecting India's national interest before signing the World Trade Treaty on 15th April, 1994;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether there has been any departure from India's own policies laws and regulation followed so far;

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(e) what steps Government had taken to protect national interest during . the prolonged negotiations vis-a-vis the affluent industrialised nations,

(f) what steps Government propose to take in this regard;

(g) to what extent the industialised nations will demand market access from India and to what extent they will give us access us their markets;

(h) what is Government's reaction in this regard; and

(i) how Government propose to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to
(i) Negotiations in the Uruguay Round have been concluded save in the areas of movement of personnel, financial services and (for interested parties) basic telecommunications.

Government participated in the negotiations to seek a balanced result acceptable to all participants.

The Uruguay Round results will establish a rule based multilateral trading system with expanded coverage. This will on the whole be advantageous to us in increesing our exports. These will be increased market access opportunities for Indian goods as a result of lowering of tariffs and the phase out of the Multi Fibre Arrangement. The Services Agreement would also provide export opportunities. The rules governing the multilateral trading system have been strengthened. Though we will be required.to amend pur patents